

T-628
Baggs House
St. Michaels
private

c. 1875

In 1875, John Thomas Harrison and his wife, Mary K. Harrison, sold an 80' by 120' lot immediately west of their own property to Sarah F. and Mary H. Baggs for \$700. The sale of this lot occurred five years after the Harrisons had purchased their large frame house from John T. Ford. In 1875 the couple decided evidently to partition their property at a time of rapid construction and development in St. Michaels. The \$700 purchase price of the property suggests the lot was improved. In fact, the local paper ran a news item at the time declaring, "Thomas E. Bell has purchased a canning house and lot from Mr. Harrison and will erect a dwelling on it." Thomas E. Bell was the son-in-law of Sarah Baggs, and he is credited with erecting the front portion of the house, while the rear portion, by Harrison family tradition, was the former canning building. Sarah and Mary Baggs owned the dwelling through the balance of the nineteenth century. In 1902, John F. Dawson, executor of the estate of Mary H. Baggs, sold the house and lot to the Methodist Episcopal Church of Sardis Chapel for \$800. In the same year, the property was transferred to Kate Lee Kemp, who retained the title to the house for five years. Since the early twentieth century, the property has been held by a handful of owners.

The Baggs house is an unusual frame dwelling that stands at 106 East Chestnut Street in the heart of St. Michaels. The two-story, two-part main block contrasts with most houses in town with its asymmetrical elevation. The gable-front entrance facade is trimmed with decorative Victorian sawnwork, while the adjacent two-bay wing is relatively plain. Unifying the entire house is a turned post front porch with sawn corner brackets. The Baggs house contributes to the architectural diversity of St. Michaels as well as the period nineteenth-century character of East Chestnut Street.

Survey No. T-628
Magi No. 2106282504
DOE yes no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic BAGGS HOUSE

and/or common ANN WYNN HOUSE

2. Location

street & number 106 East Chestnut Street not for publication

city, town St. Michaels vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture
<u> </u> building(s)	<u> </u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial
	<u> </u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military
			<u> </u> museum
			<u> </u> park
			<u> </u> private residence
			<u> </u> religious
			<u> </u> scientific
			<u> </u> transportation
			<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Ms. Ann Wynn

street & number 106 East Chestnut Street telephone no.:

city, town St. Michaels state and zip code MD 21663

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber 405

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 241

city, town Easton state 21601

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-628

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Baggs house is a two-story, five-bay frame dwelling that stands at 106 East Chestnut Street near St. Mary's Square, St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The house faces north with the principal gable oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1875, the two-story center hall house is supported by a minimal brick foundation, and the building is sheathed with a layer artificial siding. The medium pitched roofs are covered with asphalt shingles.

The north (main) elevation is an asymmetrical, two-part facade with a gable-front, three-bay section extended to the east by a two-bay wing. The heavily molded four-panel front door is flanked by three-light sidelights, and it is topped by a four-pane transom. Pairs of adjacent six-over-six sash windows are flanked by louvered shutters. The entire first floor is sheltered by a turned post porch trimmed with decorative sawn brackets. The second floor of the gable-front section is pierced by a single six-over-six sash window, while the eastern wing is lighted by a pair of six-over-six sash windows. The peak of the gabled wall is fitted with a louvered vent, and the eave is trimmed with a Victorian sawn bargeboard. The roof of the adjacent wing is treated with a standard boxed cornice.

The east gable end of the house is a plain wall surface aside from a louvered vent in the upper gable. The eaves are slightly extended and finished with short returns at the base of the roof. The west side of the house is marked by an asymmetrical fenestration of six-over-six sash windows, and a bay window lights the rear sitting room. The south (rear) elevation is partially covered by a service wing. Details remain consistent with the balance of the house.

The center entrance hall separates two large rooms, while the open stair rises against the rear wall of the dining room (west room). Although the front rooms have been reworked and do not retain period features, the late nineteenth-century stair survives with a turned newel post, turned balusters and a molded handrail. Shallow profile four-panel doors survive in the rear parts of the house as do bulls-eye corner block surrounds within the bay window.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-628

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Baggs house is an unusual frame dwelling that stands at 106 East Chestnut Street in the heart of St. Michaels. The two-story, two-part main block contrasts with most houses in town with its asymmetrical elevation. The gable-front entrance facade is trimmed with decorative Victorian sawnwork, while the adjacent two-bay wing is relatively plain. Unifying the entire house is a turned post front porch with sawn corner brackets. The interior retains a period stair as well as Victorian moldings in the rear part of the house. The Baggs house contributes to the architectural diversity of St. Michaels as well as the period nineteenth-century character of East Chestnut Street.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

In 1875, John Thomas Harrison and his wife, Mary K. Harrison, sold an 80' by 120' lot immediately west of their own property to Sarah F. and Mary H. Baggs for \$700.(81/496) The sale of this lot occurred five years after the Harrisons had purchased their large frame house from John T. Ford. In 1875 the couple evidently decided to partition their property at a time of rapid construction and development in St. Michaels. The \$700 purchase price of the property suggests the lot was improved, perhaps by the extant house. Sarah and Mary Baggs owned the dwelling through the balance of the nineteenth-century. In 1902, John F. Dawson, executor of the estate of Mary H. Baggs, sold the house and lot to the Methodist Episcopal Church of Sardis Chapel for \$800.(137/436) In the same year the property was transferred to Kate Lee Kemp, who kept title to the house for five years. Since the early twentieth century the property has been held by a handful of owners.

BAGGS House

ANN WYNN HOUSE

T-628

YEAR: 1965 VOL: 405 PAGE: 241

FROM: George W. & Bessie S. Carey PRICE:

TO: Henry J. & Ruth N. Miller

NOTES :Begins at the NE corner of lot 72 (formerly George W. Jefferson); run 120 feet to Boundary Alley; with the Alley 78'6" to John T. Harrison; with Harrison North 120 feet to Chestnut Street; with Chestnut Street 80 feet to the beginning Consists of all of lot 71 and part of lot 70.
Conveyed to Carey by Mullikin 1956, 328/268.

YEAR: 1956 VOL: 328 PAGE: 268

FROM: Oliver S. Mullikin, extr. for estate Sadie B. Burns PRICE: \$5050

TO: George W. Carey and Bessie S. Carey

NOTES Same description. By authority of Will of Sadie B. Burns 1948, 29/75 (prob. 1955).

Conveyed to Burns by Addicks 1954, 315/319.

YEAR: 1954 VOL: 315 PAGE: 319

FROM: Bessie C. Addicks (Birmingham, Ala.) PRICE:

TO: Sadie B. Burns

NOTES :Same description.

To Addicks by Henry, admin. of Chesley 1936, 237/6.

YEAR: 1936 VOL: 237 PAGE: 6

FROM: T. Hughlett Henry, adm. PRICE:

TO: Bessie C. Addicks

NOTES Same description.

John Harry Chesley, dcd. agreed to let his daughter Bessie C. Addicks purchase the property after his death and sale was authorized by the Orphan's Court.
Conveyed to Sarah F. Chesley by Kate Lee Kemp, and others 1907, 150/154.
Devised to her step-son John Harry Chesley by will, 1927, 23/333.

YEAR: 1907 VOL: 150 PAGE: 154

FROM: Kate Lee Kemp and Joseph O. Kemp PRICE: \$1000

TO: Sarah F. Chesley

NOTES Same description.

Conveyed to Kate Lee Kemp by William Herrison and others 1902, 138/315.

YEAR: 1902 VOL: 138 PAGE: 315

FROM: William Harrison and trustees of Sardis Chapel PRICE: \$800

TO: Kate Lee Kemp

NOTES Same description.

Conveyed to Sardis Chapel by John F. Dawson extr. of Mary Baggs 1902, 137/436.

YEAR: 1902 VOL: 137 PAGE: 436

FROM: John F. Dawson, extr. PRICE: \$800

TO: Methodist Episcopal Church of Sardis Chapel

NOTES :Same description. By authority of the will of Mary H. Baggs, 1900, 15/380.

To Baggs by Harrison 1875, 81/496.

YEAR: 1875 VOL: 81 PAGE: 496

FROM: John T. Harrison and Mary K. Harrison PRICE: \$700

TO: Sarah F. Baggs and Mary H. Baggs

NOTES Same description.

Conveyed to John T Harrison by John T. Ford 1870, 77/26

This deed conveys to Baggs the 80 feet by 120 feet lot on which the house is built.

YEAR: 1870 VOL: 77 PAGE: 26

FROM: John T. Ford and Hester Ford PRICE: \$3500

TO: John T. Harrison

NOTES :Begin at the westernmost corner of lot 68; run with Chestnut Street 160 feet to lot 72; with lot 72, 120 feet the the outlines of the town; then 160 feet to lot 68; then North to the beginning.

Conveyed to John T. Ford by John W. Blades 1869, 76/43.

From here the title follows that of the J. Harrison Kemp House (T-273)

YEAR: 1869 VOL: 76 PAGE: 43

FROM : John W Blades and Eleanora PRICE: \$1600

TO : John T Ford

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to Ellen Noore Blades by Hugh A Cooper and Harriet A Cooper, Ann D Auld, Moses C Legg and Ann M Legg 1856, 67/400.

YEAR: 1856 VOL: 67 PAGE: 400

FROM : Hugh A Cooper & Harriet; Ann Auld; Moses Legg & Ann PRICE: \$333.33

TO : Eleanora Blades

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to Hugh A Cooper by James M Hopkins 1847, 60//272.

YEAR: 1847 VOL: 60 PAGE: 272

FROM : James M Hopkins, Boon Cty, Mississippi PRICE: \$80

TO : Hugh A Cooper, Baltimore, Md.

NOTES: Part of "Janes Progress". Lots 69, 70, 71 in Braddock's Square, St. Michaels.

Conveyed to Frances Auld Yothers by John Dorgin 1814, 37/111. The deed is to Frances Auld and her daughters, Mary Hopkins, Sarah Lambdin, and Ann Dawson Auld. Frances died intestate in 1821 and the property passed to her heirs. James Madison Hopkins was one of Frances Auld grandsons and here conveys his undivided fourth part to other Auld heirs.

YEAR: 1814 VOL: 37 PAGE: 111

FROM : John Dorgin PRICE: \$150

TO : Frances Auld Yothers, Mary Hopkins, Sarah Lambdin and Ann Dawson Auld

NOTES: Lots 69, 70, and 71. Dorgan had agreed to sell the lots to Hugh Auld, who died in 1812 before he received title. This deed confirms the sale.

Conveyed to John Dorgin by Elizabeth Sherwood, 1813, 36/288.

YEAR: 1813 VOL: 36 PAGE: 288

FROM : Elizabeth Sherwood PRICE: \$487.90 2/3

TO : John Dorgin

NOTES: By a Chancery Court decision in 1812, John Dorgin acquired parts of Bentley Hay, Janes Progress, and The Beach which had been purchased by Thomas Sherwood from John Thompson and William Harrison (1791, 24/299 and 1785, 23/115. The land on which T588 is located is described: "All the land which formerly belonged to James Braddock lying to the southward of a line drawn from the East end of Chestnut Street on a cove of St. Michaels River straight with the street across the main road to Broad Creek."

WYNN PROPERTY
106 E. Chestnut St.
St. Michaels, Md. 21663

The tract of land on which this property is located, south side of East Chestnut Street in the town of St. Michaels, Md., was once part of an ancient grant patented in 1695, called "Jane's Progress." At the time of the Revolution, James Braddock, a mariner and representative at St. Michaels for the British firm of Gildart & Gawaith, numbered it among his holdings and when he died in 1782 bequeathed it to a man named John Thompson.

John Thompson, another of early St. Michaels real estate agents, owned a large parcel of land on the west side of Market Street (now Talbot) in which lay his primary interests so he sold his legacy to Hugh Sherwood, a local plantation owner who also dabbled in real estate among other things.

John Dorgan, the local blacksmith, owner of a large tract at the east end of East Chestnut Street, became the next owner of this part of "Jane's Progress," which had by then been marked off in lots after the incorporation of the town in 1804. In 1808 Dorgan sold Lots # 69, 70 and 71 to Hugh Auld. This grantee died in 1812 without ever having received a deed from John Dorgan and it was two years later, in 1814, that Frances Auld, widow, obtained title to her late husband's property. She died in 1821, intestate, and lots #69, 70 and 71 became the "right" of her legal heirs. For some twenty-five years the Auld family "possessed" this bit of "Jane's Progress" in the town of St. Michaels.

On March 15, 1847, James Madison Hopkins, of Boone County, Mississippi, in consideration of the sum of eighty dollars (\$80) paid to him by Hugh A. Cooper of Baltimore, conveyed his interest as a grandson of Frances Auld, deceased, in the property on the south side of Chestnut Street. Then on 23 December, 1856, Lots #69, 70 and 71 were sold out of the Auld family by three other grandchildren and their spouses. Mrs. Eleanore Blades became the new owner, and for her purchase paid three hundred thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents (\$333.33.)

John W. Blades, husband to Eleanore, a hardworking sailor, built a house on their property and lived there for thirteen years during which time six of the couple's eight children were born. In 1869 he and his wife Eleanore, sold their house and the three lots to Captain John T. Ford for the sum of sixteen hundred dollars.

Capt. Ford was a mariner and somewhat of an entrepreneur. He dealt in real estate, acted as agent for the steamboat company and pioneered the first commercial canning business in Talbot County. This enterprise was carried on in a building which he erected on the western half of his property. He and his family lived across the street in a brand new house which he built for his second wife. On 10 November 1870 Capt. Ford and Hester his wife, sold the three lots, the dwelling and the canning house to John T. Harrison, a local businessman and retired farmer. The selling price of thirty-five hundred dollars is indicative of the increased value of the property and improvements.

John T. Harrison was getting along in years and had no use for a canning house, sold he and Mary K., his wife, decided to split their property in half, retaining the eastern half for themselves. On 2 December 1875, in consideration of the sum of seven hundred dollars (\$700) they sold one-half of lot #70 and all of lot #71 to the widow Sarah T. Baggs and her daughter Mary H. Baggs. Sarah Baggs was the widow of a man named Bennett Baggs, mother of Mary H. Baggs and another daughter, then deceased, who had been married to a man named Thomas E. Bell. The widower Bell made his home with his mother-in-law and sister-in-law, a situation which explains a news item which appeared in the local paper following the purchase of the Chestnut Street property: "Thomas E. Bell has purchased a canning house and lot from Mr. Harrison and will erect a dwelling on it."

Note: The late Harrison Kemp told this writer that the old cannery is now the rear wing of the building; the front section facing the street was built by Bell (under the auspices of Sarah and Mary Baggs).

Mary H. Baggs inherited the property from her mother and in 1900 Mary H. Baggs willed her home to the Methodist Episcopal Church of Sardis Chapel. The Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church sold it in 1902 to Kate Lee Kemp for the sum of eight hundred dollars (\$800).

1907 Kate Lee Kemp and Joseph O. Kemp, consideration \$1000, to Sarah F. Chesley. Sarah Chesley died in 1927, leaving the house and lot to her stepson, John Harry Chesley, of Birmingham, Alabama. He, in turn, agreed to give the property to his daughter at his death in return for certain favors, and after his death Bessie C. Addicks, widow, conveyed Lot #71 and part of Lot #70 to Sadie Burns. Mrs. Burns died in 1956; George W. and Bessie S. Carey then purchased the property and in 1965 sold it to Henry J. Miller and Ruth his wife.

There is nothing in land records to suggest that the present house at 106 E. Chestnut Street is not the one built there in 1875, on part of "Jane's Progress."

ST MICHAELS

ST. MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.



ST. MICHAEL'S BUSINESS REFERENCES,

DODSON, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Fine Toilet Soap, Fancy Hair and Tooth Brushes, Perfumery and Fancy Toilet Articles, Suspenders, Shoulder-Braces, Grass and Garden Seeds, C Wines and Liquors for Medicinal purposes, Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs, Letter Paper, Ink, Envelopes, Glass, Putty, Carbon Oil, Pipes, Chimneys, &c. Physicians' Prescriptions carefully Compounded.

HADDAWAY, Insurance Agent and Conveyancer.

W. DEAN, Collector of Claims, Real Estate Agent and Conveyancer.

S. DYOTT, Carpenter, Contractor and Builder, Shop at St. Michael's.

ED H. HAMBLETON, Carpenter and Builder, Shop at St. Michael's.

S. F. JON, Real Estate Agent and Collector of Claims.

SPARROW, Justice of the Peace and Collector.

SMITHMAN, Boot and Shoemaker. First class work done on short notice. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

S. HAMBLETON, Proprietor of "Hambleton's Mechanical Shop." Blacksmithing, Wheelwrighting, and all work appertaining thereto. In-crease Machinery carefully repaired. Farming Implements on hand, and made to order at short notice. Carriage Repairing, Trimming and Painting Specially.

WILLIAM CAULK, Physician and Surgeon, Office and Residence near St. Michael's.

L. B. HARRISON, Blacksmith and Wagon Maker. Repairing promptly and neatly done. Shop in Broad Creek Neck.

N. NEAVITT & CO., Dealers in Dry Goods, Notions, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c. Store in Broad Creek Neck.

N. T. HARRINGTON, Proprietor of "Williams House," Newly furnished and fitted. Table carefully catered for. All the luxuries of the season. Ample Stable Accommodations. Charges moderate.

W. J. KILMAN, Carriage Maker and Dealer in all kinds of Wagons.

ERGE W. COLLINS, Tinber. Worker in Tin, Sheet Iron, &c. Also Dealer in Stoves and Tin, and Sheet Iron ware of every description.

E. BLADES, Carpenter, Contractor, and Builder. Persons having work in this line will do well to see him before contracting.

SEPH HERGERSHEIMER, Ship Builder. Repairing of all kinds promptly and neatly done.

EVER FAIRBANK, Boot and Shoemaker. Is skillful in his profession. Those wanting first class work done will do well to patronize him.

ERISON & RICHARDSON, Carriage Makers. All work warranted. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

J. HOLLAND, Butcher and Dealer in Fresh Meats of all kinds. Shop on Talbot Street.

ET. C. R. LEONARD, Freighter of Grain of all kinds to any point.

OMAS BLADES, Of E. Dealer in Dry Goods, Notions, Cigars, Tobacco, &c.

EMIL HARRISON, Dealer in Groceries, Confectionery, &c.

E. KILMON, Carriage Maker and Dealer in Carriages, Wagons, &c. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

A. DODSON Physician and Surgeon.

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BAGGS HOUSE
St. Michaels, MD Quadrangle
1942

Navy Pt
Parrott Pt

St Michaels

Fairview Pt

Lc
Pt



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Baggs House

St. Michaels, Talbot County, MD

North elevation

3/88, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust



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Baggs House

St. Michaels, Talbot County, MD

North elevation

3/88, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust